

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHC 7138

UNCLAS DAR ES SALAAM 4216

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BDIS, TZ

SUBJ: TANZANIAN HUNTING BAN AND REFUND OF HUNTER DEPOSITS

REF: DAR ES SALAAM 0761

1. OVER YEAR AGO TANGOV BANNED ALL GAME HUNTING. THIS CREATED PROBLEMS FOR US HUNTERS WHO MADE DEPOSITS FOR HUNTING SAFARI AS FOREIGN EXCHANGE CONTROLS DO NOT PERMIT EASY REFUNDS. IN SOME CASES HUNTERS WERE ALREADY IN COUNTRY OR ENROUTE WHEN BAN IMPOSED AND THEY ASK TANGOV TO DEFRAY ALL EXPENSES FOR HUNTING SAFARI WHICH HAD TO BE ABORTED BECAUSE OF BAN. EMBOFFS, ON CASE BY CASE BASIS, HAVE ATTEMPTED TO EXPEDITE REFUNDS FOR HUNTERS BUT, TYPICALLY, HAVE BEEN CONFRONTED WITH VAGUE REPLIES THAT MATTER CAUGHT UP IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE CONTROL SYSTEM AND NO WAY INDIVIDUAL CASES CAN BE PLUCKED OUT AND ANSWERS GIVEN. ALSO, SEVERAL US HUNTERS HAVE BOOKED WITH PRIVATE SAFARI OPERATORS AND THEY, FOR QUITE VALID REASONS (SEE REFTEL) ARE UNABLE TO REMIT REFUNDS.

2. EMBOFF RECENTLY REVIEWED HUNTING SAFARI REFUND PROBLEM WITH CHIEF, GAME DIVISION, MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND TOURISM (JINGU). HE APPRECIATES DELAYS IN MAKING REFUNDS UNFORTUNATE AND GIVES TANZANIA POOR IMAGE ABROAD. JINGU HAS AGREED TO CALL MEETING OF APPROPRIATE TANGOV AGENCIES AND TRY TO UNSNARL RED TAPE AND QUICKEN PACE OF DEPOSITREFUNDS. HE NOTED, HOWEVER, UNLIKELY TANGOV WILL REFUND EXPENSES (TRANSPORT, HOTEL, AND KIT) INCIDENTAL TO HUNTING SAFARIS CANCELLED BECAUSE OF HUNTING BAN.

3. AT THIS STAGE WE WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT POLLING INDIVIDUALS LISTED IN PARA 4 (WHO OUR RECORDS SHOW AS HAVING DEPOSIT

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REFUNDS PENDING OR HAVE APPLIED FOR COMPENSATION FOR EXPENSES

INCIDENTAL TO ABORTED SAFARI). THEY SHOULD INDICATE, WITH PRECISION

WHO THEY MADE THEIR DEPOSITS WITH AND REFERENCE MOST RECENT REPLY, WITH DATE AND FILE NUMBER, AMOUNT INVOLVED, AND NAME OF TANGOV AGENCY THEY HAVE BEEN WRITING TO IN THEIR EFFORT TO SECURE REFUND OF DEPOSIT AND/OR REIMBURSEMENT FOR SAFARI EXPENSES. WITH COMPLETE TABULATION OF CLAIMS, EMBASSY WILL SEEK TO OBTAIN AS FULL REDRESS OF HUNTER CLAIMS AS POSSIBLE. IF INDIVIDUALS POLLED KNOW OF OTHER NOT SHOWN ON THIS LIST, DEPARTMENT SHOULD ADD THEIR NAMES TO LIST IN PARA 4 AND CALL INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED TO ASCERTAIN STATUS OF THEIR REFUND APPLICATIONS.

4. FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS HAVE WRITTEN TO EMBASSY REGARDING HUNTING BAN CLAIMS:

ARTHUR CHOPEL
314 E. SEVENTH ST
ALBERT LEA, MINNESOTA

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FLORIDA RANCH HANDS. INC.
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GAVEND, SULLIVAN & BRYANS
1640 EAST 18TH AVENUE
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CARTER

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